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Gen. Doolittle Says Rate of Soviet Weapons Program Tops Ours, But U.S. Is Stronger Militarily at Present

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He Calls for Immediate Boost In Defense Budget, Change Of Educational System

WASHINGTON—Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle told Congress the present rate of Russian weapons development "is much more rapid than ours" and that "they are already ahead of us" in the development of intercontinental range and intercontinental ballistic missiles.

The retired Air Force general is also president and a director of Shell Oil Co. and serves as chairman of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics—a Federal agency doing important missile research. He called for "an immediate, substantial increase in our military budget" and an "overhauling of our education system" to provide more and better scientists.

Gen. Doolittle was the first witness the Senate Preparedness subcommittee headed by Sen. Johnson (D., Texas), held the second day of public hearings on the nation's missile and satellite programs. "At the present time," he said, "we are stronger militarily than Russia, but unless we forge ahead at full speed we will overtake us."

A second witness, Dr. John P. Stapp, director of the Navy's "Project Vanguard," for launching a U.S. satellite, testified that given sufficient funds and a top priority from the very outset, this country "could have come very close" to beating the first Russian Sputnik launched on October 4 and might even have been "ahead of them" until recently, he said. "Vanguard" had a secondary priority.

Navy on "Verge" of Launching

The Navy, he said, is on the verge of launching its first test satellite, a 100-lb. device, "early next month" and will plans to launch its first full-sized 20-lb. satellite "soon" in March after sending up three test spheres. The launching schedule, he noted, was speeded up last July, before Sputnik I, because

of "urgent tasks in launching vehicle components which exceeded our expectations."

After hearing Dr. Stapp, the subcommittee ended its now three-day part of its hearings and went into recess to hear Allen Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and other members of the Army, Navy and Air Force, probably be heard when the committee resumes its hearings on December 10.

The CIA's executives told the panel that the Soviet Union has been growing rapidly since the war and Soviet production of military goods is about equal in value to America's, according to the report.

Mr. Dulles said that Russia is developing a scientific and technological manpower pool.

Other witnesses reported the CIA's difficulties in maintaining their high level of military expenditures and investment in heavy industry while trying at the same time to improve living standards.

The witness cited the history of Soviet military spending since 1945, when they began to build up their military. He pointed out that the Soviet Union had a "very high" level of military spending, but that the subcommittee was told the Russians had a "very high" level of military spending.

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Great Air Defense Urged

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